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LETTER DATED 29 AUGUST 1991 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 29 August 1991 from Mr. Ahmad Hussein, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, addressed to you, concerning the situation of Kuwaiti nationals in Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sabah Talat KADRAT
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Letter dated 29 August 1991 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the letter dated 17 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations, addressed to the President of the Security Council.

I have the honour to notify you of the following information concerning the situation of Kuwaiti nationals in Iraq since the end of the Gulf War.

1. The competent Iraqi authorities repatriated to Kuwait 6,328 Kuwaitis and 5 persons not of Kuwaiti nationality under the supervision of the delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) during the period from 4 March to the present.

2. The ICRC delegation registered 3,400 Kuwaitis comprising 606 families who were in Iraq in addition to 159 individuals.

3. The Kuwaiti side agreed to the repatriation of 170 of the Kuwaitis referred to in paragraph 2 above. The Kuwaiti side is now attempting to delude Arab and international public opinion into believing that Iraq is concealing large numbers of Kuwaitis.

4. The Kuwaiti authorities are constantly endeavouring to impede the return of Kuwaitis to Kuwait on the pretext that verification procedures have not been completed. They have made a number of errors as testified by ICRC, the most recent of which was on 13 July when it had been decided to hand over a group of Kuwaitis but the Kuwaiti representative did not come to the Ar'ar area in Saudi Arabia to receive them. The handing over operation was postponed until 14 July, the ICRC delegation having confirmed that it had informed the Kuwaiti side of the time of the handing over.

We believe that the delay in the repatriation of the Kuwaitis who are still in Iraq, of which ICRC is aware, was directly caused by the Kuwaiti authorities who bear full responsibility for it.

Iraq is cooperating fully on this matter with ICRC and once again affirms its readiness to hand over all Kuwaitis who are in Iraq to the Kuwaiti side through ICRC. I should like the Secretary-General to exert pressure on the Kuwaiti side to receive them and not to exploit this matter for dishonourable publicity purposes.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ahmad HUSSEIN